

Operation of Ferry Services

Benton/Houston County & Cumberland City

A. Specifications:

- A.1. The contractor shall provide ferry operations at the locations listed below. The ferry (tug and barge) is owned by the State of Tennessee.
 - a. Benton/Houston County Ferry crossing the Tennessee River located approximately 2.35 miles west of McKinnon Tennessee in Houston County.
 - b. Cumberland City Ferry crossing the Cumberland River located in Stewart County Tennessee on State Route 46.
- A.2. The contractor shall provide ferry operations as follows:
 - a. Schedule
 - Monday thru Friday 5:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. local time
 - Saturday and Sunday 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. local time
 - b. The contractor shall provide ferry operations 365 days a year.
 - c. The contractor shall operate on a daily crossing schedule that ensures that users of the ferry services are not required to wait more than one-half (1/2) hour for service.
 - d. The State reserves the right to increase or decrease the hours of operations based upon the service usage pattern.
- A.3. The contractor may repair or replace any mechanical equipment in the tug or barge, as needed, and upon written approval via email by the Regional Director or his designee. The State shall reimburse contractor for actual cost of these repairs based on submitted invoices.
- A.4. The contractor shall perform all preventative maintenance related to the ferry operations including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Check fluid levels
 - b. Perform all required lubrication
 - c. Maintain the vessel in a clean and orderly state
 - d. Maintain records showing date and type of preventative maintenance performed as well as who performed the maintenance.

- A.5. The contractor shall provide all lubricants and diesel fuel necessary for the operation of the tug. The State shall reimburse contractor for actual cost of fuel and lubricants based on submitted invoices. Notwithstanding the forgoing, the State, at its sole discretion may opt to provide diesel for the operation of the ferry, provided that the State gives the contractor thirty (30) days' notice of such a determination.
- A.6. In order to provide continuous service, the State reserves the right to request the contractor to furnish substitute ferry equipment (tug and barge) during the time the State's ferry is out of service for repairs or dry docked for U.S. Coast Guard ("USCG") inspection and repairs. The substitute ferry equipment shall meet all necessary USCG, Federal, and State requirements associated with ferry boat operations.
- A.7. The contractor shall be responsible for transporting the State's ferry equipment (tug and barge) to the closest possible USCG certified marine for required repair and inspections and return the equipment to its service location. The ferry equipment requires USCG certification once every five years.
- A.8. The contractor shall maintain all safety equipment as required by the USCG, to ensure operational readiness. If such equipment requires repair or replacement, such repair or replacement shall be the responsibility of the contractor.
- A.9. The contractor shall furnish, install, and maintain a radar unit acceptable for river navigation. The captain on duty during hours of operation shall have proper USCG radar license and/or certification. The contractor shall retain ownership of the radar unit.
- A.10. The contractor shall furnish, install, and maintain two (2) radio units and necessary wiring acceptable for navigation. The captain on duty during hours of operation shall have proper USCG radio license and/or certification. The contractor shall retain ownership of the radio units.
- A.11. The contractor shall maintain all signs associated with the operation and shall have them posted in a conspicuous location. Signs shall include but not be limited to the following:
- a. One 3' X 4' sign on the ferry indicating the name of the operating company (contractor), operator on duty, and address and telephone number of the operating company. The sign shall be provided by the contractor and shall require prior written approval of the state before posting.

b. The contractor shall not display any additional signs without prior written approval or direction of the State.

A.12. In the event the contractor should cease operations or interrupt scheduled operations for any reason, the contractor shall immediately notify the Regional Engineering Director or his designee by telephone at 615-350-4300 that services have been interrupted and provide the reason(s) and estimated time services will resume.

A.13. In the event of an occurrence affecting the safe operations of the vessel, an injury to the public, a serious injury to the crew, vandalism or serious accident involving the crew and/or vessel, the contractor shall immediately notify the Regional Maintenance Engineer or his designee by telephone at 615-350-4300. Incidents of a lesser nature shall be reported within twenty-four hours of the incident.

A.14. Personnel requirements:

a. The contractor shall furnish a minimum crew of two (2), a captain and a deckhand. All personnel shall have and maintain all required state, federal and USCH certifications and licenses to perform their duties.

b. The contractor and his personnel shall be polite, well mannered, and shall always present a clean and neat appearance to the public.

c. The contractor shall provide written notification within 24 hours in the event the contractor elects to replace the captain(s) of the vessel.

A.15. The contractor shall comply with all federal, state, and local laws, statutes, rules, codes, and ordinances addressing the operation, licensing and certification requirements associated with the operation and maintenance of a ferry boat and its crew.

A.16. The contractor shall be responsible for collecting all fees associated with the operation of ferry services. Fees collected shall be kept by the contractor.

The contractor shall maintain a count based on the fee schedule below. The contractor shall submit copies of deposit slips for the revenue collected. The State's Finance Division shall verify the revenue collected and deposited agrees with the count. Revenue collected shall be deducted from the monthly invoice payment.

The maximum rate allowed to be charged is as follows:

Automobile, passengers, and driver..... \$2.00

Pedestrians.....	\$0.50
Truck or bus (1 ton capacity and under)	\$2.00
Truck or bus (Over 1 ton) and driver.....	\$4.00
Automobile trailer.....	\$1.50
Truck or bus trailer*	\$4.00
*Trailer fee will be in addition to the fee for the towing vehicle	
Motorcycle and driver.....	\$2.00
Benton Houston Stewart and Henry County residents.....	\$0.75

All official governmental vehicles are exempt from paying user fees.

TCA 54-13-317 (a) established the rates above. TCA 54-13-317 (b) allows the Commissioner to establish a higher maximum. Any such rate revision shall be affected by contract amendment.

B. State Responsibilities

1. The State shall maintain approaching roadways, ramps, and lights.
2. The State shall provide all necessary permanent signs and pavement markings on approaching roadways and ramps.
3. The State shall furnish the contractor with necessary signage for temporary closure of ferry operations.
4. The State shall provide all repairs and maintenance not specifically identified as contractor responsibility.

C. The contractor shall be compensated based upon the following categories and rates:

1. Ferry boat operation based on an hourly rate
2. Substitute ferry tug in accordance with section A.6. based on a daily rate
3. Substitute ferry barge in accordance with section A.6. based on a daily rate
4. Transportation of state ferry tug, in accordance with A.7, to a USCG certified marine shall be compensated at the same hourly rate for operation of the ferry boat.

5. Transportation of state ferry barge, in accordance with A.7, to a USCG certified marine shall be compensated at the same hourly rate for operation of the ferry boat.
6. Repairs in accordance with section A.3. shall be reimbursed based on actual cost
7. Fuel and lubricants cost in accordance with section A.5. shall be reimbursed based on actual cost

A day shall be defined as a minimum of twelve- and one-half hours of service. The contractor shall bill only for portions of a day if the contractor provides fewer than twelve hours of service in a 24-hour day. The contractor shall not bill more than the daily rate even if the contractor works more than the twelve- and one-half hours.

In the event operations are halted due to high water or other act of nature, the contractor shall be compensated at half of the hourly operating rate for up to 48 hours of scheduled hours of operation. After the initial 48 hours, the contractor shall not be due any additional compensation until operations are resumed. High water shall be defined as water level being high enough that vehicles cannot safely access the ferry.